

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 MCT-01 /045 W  
-----172202Z 121640 /61

P R 172134Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4636

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 2868

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT

TODAY'S LEADING, HIGH CIRCULATION LA PRENSA GRAFICA DEVOTED TWO LEAD EDITORIALS TO THE SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE OAS. IN THE FIRST ONE TITLED: "HUMAN RIGHTS (UNDER DISCUSSION) AT OAS MEETING" THE PAPER ASSERTED THAT LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL FULLY DEBATE "TWO OF THE MOST IMPORTANT HEMISPHERE ISSUES: HUMAN RIGHTS AND TERRORISM". "BOTH ISSUES", SAID THE PAPER, "ARE LADEN WITH DYNAMITE BECAUSE ON THE ONE HAND THEY INEVITABLY CLASH WITH THE REALITY OF MANY OAS STATE MEMBERS, AND ON THE OTHER THEY HAVE CLOSE RELATION WITH PRESIDENT CARTER'S PUSH FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AS BASIS OF THE NEW U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.

THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE HAD BEEN DORMANT SINCE 1948, ADDED THE DAILY, "UNTIL THE CURRENT U.S. PRESIDENT MADE IT TOPICAL AGAIN". TO DATE, WITH THE U.S. DEMANDING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, "THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN DIPLOMATIC DIFFERENCES AND REJECTION OR COVERT PROTEST AS IN THE CASES WHERE SOME LATAM COUNTRIES HAVE TURNED DOWN AMERICAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

IN ITS SECOND EDITORIAL, HEADED "OAS DEBATES CREATE EXPECTATIONS" LA PRENSA GRAFICA SAID "THERE IS JUSTIFIABLE EXPECTATION IN THE HEMISPHERE THAT POSSIBLE GOOD SOLUTIONS OR  
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RECOMMENDATIONS MAY EMERGE FROM THIS MEETING".

"WHAT HAS OCCURRED AT THE OAS MEETING UP TO THIS TIME IN GRENADA IS TELLING US THAT THE (SENSITIVE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS) IS NOT MERELY AN ACADEMIC TOPIC, BUT A QUESTION BASED ON CONTINENTAL POLITICAL REALITY. SOME FOREIGN MINISTER HAS EVEN AFFIRMED, IN AN EFFORT TO JUSTIFY OR APOLOGIZE FOR WHAT

IS HAPPENING IN HIS COUNTRY, THAT RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
SHOULD NOT ONLY BE DEMANDED FROM THE GOVERNMENTS BUT ALSO FROM  
SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS. OR PARAPHRASING A PARADOX: THOSE WITHIN  
THE LAW DO NOT RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS BECAUSE OTHERS WHO ARE OUT-  
SIDE THE LAW DO NOT RESPECT THEM EITHER".

GRIFFITHS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Subject:** MEDIA REACTION REPORT TODAY'S LEADING, HIGH CIRCULATION LA PRENSA GRAFICA DEVOTED TWO LEAD EDITORIALS TO THE SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
**TAGS:** PORG, SHUM, PINS, ES, OAS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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